

The young and the old enjoy hearing and reading stories. Interesting stories particularly appeal to everyone. Here are some important points that can help us to make a story interesting and impressive:

1. The story should have a clear and well planned plot.
2. The events should follow a natural order.
3. It should be in simple English.
4. Dialogues should be impressive and worded as naturally as possible.
5. It should always be in the past tense.
6. There should be no grammatical mistakes.
7. It should have some suspense for the reader, to make the story have a strong grip.

Practice makes a man perfect; holds good in the case of story writing too.

Developing a story from a given outline is easier than writing one on a heading or a moral. Whatever the case, the conclusion or the end should be handsomely drawn and moral (if any) should follow in a natural and clear way.

Specimen:

Develop the following outline into a readable story:

A farmer has three sons ----- they keep on quarrelling ----- father advises again and again but to no effect ----- falls seriously ill ----- sends for the sons ----- asks them to bring a handful of sticks ----- ties them into a bundle ----- asks them to break it turn by turn ----- all the three fail ----- unties the bundle ----- asks them to break single stick ----- they easily break ----- lesson ----- united we stand, divided we fall.

A Farmer and his Sons

Once upon a time, there lived a farmer in a village. He had three sons. They always quarrelled with one another. The farmer was much worried (پریشان) about them. He advised them to live in peace (امن) but all in vain (بے سود). One day he fell seriously (شدید طور پر) ill. He planned (منصوب بنایا) to advise them for the last time (آخری دفعہ). He sent for (بلایا) his sons. They came at once (فورا). He asked them to bring a bundle of sticks. When they did so, he ordered them to break the bundle one by one. They tried (کوشش کی) their best to break it but none (کوئی بھی) could succeed (کامیاب ہوتا).

At last, the farmer untied (کھول دیا) the bundle and asked each of them to break a stick one by one. Everyone broke his stick quite easily (بڑی آسانی سے). The farmer then advised them that if they were united (تحد) like the sticks, no one would harm (نقصان پہنچانا) them. But they would be ruined (تباہ) if they were divided (اٹک). This had a very good effect (اثر) on them. So they began to live peacefully (امن و سکون سے).

Moral:

1. Union is strength.
2. United we stand, divided we fall.

اتفاق میں برکت ہے۔

تحد ہونے میں بقاء ہے۔ نفاق میں فنا ہے۔

1. Kindness of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ)

Once the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) was going to a certain place along with his companions (صحابہ کرام). On their way, one of the companions of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) saw a nest of parrots (چڑیاں) in a bush. He picked up (اٹھالئے) the young ones (بچے) of sparrows. All at once (فوراً), the sparrows began to cry and fly over their heads wildly. The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) asked his companions why they were flying so wildly. He (ﷺ) was told the whole story.

The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) felt sorry (ترس کھایا) for the poor little birds and advised his companions to put the baby sparrows back into the nest. On this, the sparrows felt relief. This act shows (اس عمل سے ظاہر ہوتا ہے) that our Holy Prophet (ﷺ) was not only kind to human beings (انسان) but also to birds, animals and even to the small insects. He said, "Be kind to others, God will be kind to you".

Moral:

1. God is kind to one who is kind to others.
2. Kindness is a great virtue.

خدا ان پر رحم کرتا ہے جو دوسروں پر رحم کرتے ہیں۔

رحم کی بہت بڑی نیکی ہوتی ہے۔

2. Robbers turn good citizens

Once Hazrat Sheikh Abdul Qadir Gillani (God be pleased with him) set off on a journey (سفر) with a caravan (قافلہ) in his childhood (بچپن). His pious mother (نیک والدہ) stitched up (سی دیئے) forty gold coins in his shirt and advised him to speak the truth always. When they entered the forest, a gang of robbers (ڈاکوؤں کا گروہ) fell upon them and looted everyone. A robber searched (تلاشی لی) Hazrat Abdul Qadir Gillani (God be pleased with him) thoroughly and found nothing. The robber asked him

whether he had something. Hazrat Abdul Qadir (God be pleased with him) told him that he had forty gold coins (اثر نیاں) stitched in his shirt. The robber took him to the leader of the gang. The leader asked him why he had not denied (انکار کیا) of having the money. The boy told the leader that his mother had advised him to speak the truth always. The leader was greatly impressed (متاثر ہوا) by the innocent truthfulness (سچائی) of the young boy. He gave up (ترک کر دیے) his bad deeds (برے اعمال), returned everything to all the members (ارکان) of the caravan and became a good citizen.

Morals:

1. Always speak the truth.
2. Self remorse
3. Truth is evergreen.

ہمیشہ سچ بولو۔

خود بچتا اور صراطِ مستقیم کا پتہ دیتا ہے۔ (صراطِ مستقیم)

سچ کو آج نہیں۔

3. The Donkey Trapped in his Own Trick

A salt trader (نمک کا تاجر) used to bring salt from the city on his donkey's back. There was a stream (نہری) on his way. One day, the foot of the donkey slipped and it fell down into the stream. Its master helped it to stand up with great difficulty (بڑی مشکل سے). In the meantime, a large quantity of salt dissolved in the water and the donkey was delighted to find the load lighter (زیادہ ہلکا) than before. The next day, it sat down in midstream (نہری کے درمیان) to lessen (ہلکا کرتا) his load. The trader saw through (بھانپ لیا) his trick (دراڑ). He made up his mind (تہیہ کر لیا) to teach the donkey a lesson. One day he loaded it with two bales of cotton. As usual (حسب معمول) it sat down in the stream to lighten its load. But when it got up, it could not walk under the heavy load of the soaked cotton (نیکی ہوئی کپاس). The donkey resolved (عہد کیا) never to repeat (دہرائے) this trick in future (مستقبل میں).

Morals:

1. Do not play foul.
2. Experience is the best teacher.

غلط طریقے سے مت کھیلو۔

تجربہ بہترین استاد ہے۔

4. A Foolish Stag

On a hot summer day, a stag was drinking water from a pool (تالاب). It saw its reflection (عکس) in the clear water. It felt proud of its beautiful horns but it did not like its thin (پتلی) legs. Suddenly, it saw a pack of hounds (شکاری کتوں کا گروہ) coming towards it. It ran for its life as fast as its legs could carry it. In no time, it left the hounds far behind. Now it happened to pass through a

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Then he walked into the house and saw blood pools (تالاب) here and there. Just then, he saw his son sitting safe and sound (صحیح سلامت). The boy told his father about the fight between the wolf (بھیرا) and a dog who had come into the house to kill him. The hunter was very sorry at his haste (جلدی) in killing the faithful (وفادار) animal.

Morals:

1. It is no use crying over spilt milk.

اب بچھٹائے کیا ہوت جب چیزیاں چگ گئیں کہیت۔

7. A Big Reward

Once a hungry wolf was eating his prey (شکار). In order to finish it quickly, he swallowed (اندھ چلی گئی) big bite of flesh (گوشت کا ایک بڑا ٹکڑا). A bone also went in (اندھ چلی گئی) and stuck into his throat. It hurt him very much. He decided to seek the help of a crane (سارس). He requested the crane to pick out the bone from his throat. The crane was afraid lest (ایسا نہ ہو کہ) the wolf should bite off his head. But the wolf assured him of safety (حفاظت) and also a big reward for this service. At last, the crane agreed. It put its long beak into the throat of the wolf and pulled out the bone. The wolf felt very happy. The crane demanded the promised reward for the service. The wolf at once said, "Isn't it a big reward that I have not bitten off your head when it could not escape (بچتا۔ فرار ہوتا) my teeth?" The crane was disappointed at this. So, it went away cursing the cunning (مکار) wolf.

Morals:

1. A wolf may lose its teeth but not its nature.
2. A fair face may hide a foul heart.

چور چوری سے جائے ہیرا بھیری سے نہ جائے۔

بھولی بھالی صورت اپنے اندر ایک برا دل بھی رکھ سکتی ہے۔

8. The Tailor and the Elephant

A tailor ran a shop in a certain bazaar. An elephant used to go to a pond (تالاب) for drinking water through this bazaar. The tailor was a good-natured (نیک طبیعت کا آدمی) man. He used to give him a bun daily. In the course of time, they became good friends. One day, the tailor had a dispute (جھگڑا) with one of his customers (گاہک). He was feeling cross (ناراض). Meanwhile, the elephant came to receive the bun as usual (حسب معمول). The tailor, instead of giving him a bun, pricked (سوئی چھو دی) its trunk (سوٹ) with a needle (سوئی). The elephant became angry but silently went his way to drink. On his return, he filled his trunk with muddy (گارے والا) water and emptied (خالی) it on all the fine and costly dresses hanging in the shop. All the dresses were badly spoiled (بری طرح خراب ہو گئے) with the spray of muddy water. The tailor felt very sorry for what he had done

with the elephant but he could not do anything because he knew "It is no use crying over spilt milk." (پھنکا ہوا)

Morals:

1. As you sow, so shall you reap. جیسا بونو گے ویسا کاٹو گے۔
2. Look before you leap. قدم سوچھ کر اٹھاؤ۔
3. Tit for tat. جیسا کرو گے ویسا بھرو گے۔
4. It is no use crying over spilt milk. اب بچھتا گئے کیا ہوت جب چڑیاں چک گئیں کھیت۔

9. The Clever Cat and the Vain Fox

Once a cat met a fox in a forest. The fox greeted (سلام کیا) the cat and invited her to have a chat (گپ شپ کاٹا). But the cat said that it was not a safe place because the hunters usually came that way. The fox did not care for the warning of cat and boasted of his knowing many tricks to dodge hunters. He inquired (پوچھا) the cat how many tricks (دراں) she knew to dodge (دھوکہ دینا) the hunters. She simply (سادگی) replied that she only knew how to climb a tree in the time of danger. The fox looked down upon (خوارت کی نظر سے دیکھا) the cat. Just then, the cat noticed a hunter approaching (قرب آتے ہوئے) with a pack of hounds (شکاری کتوں کا گروہ). She at once (فورا) climbed up the nearest tree and saved her life. The hounds came upon the vain (مغرور) fox very soon. The fox ran for his life but the hounds overtook (آگیا) him and tore him into pieces.

Morals:

1. Vanity is self deception. غرور کرنا خود کو دھوکہ دینا ہے۔
2. Pride hath a fall. غرور کا سر نیچا۔

10. Muslim Brotherhood

In the past, Muslims were sincerely devoted to one another and made every sacrifice (قربانی) for one another. In the battle of Yermuk, Abu Jahan Bin Huzefa set out (روانہ ہوئے) in search of his cousin who was fighting on the battle-front (اگلا محاذ). He carried a water-skin (پانی کا مشینہ) to offer water to the thirsty soldiers. He found his cousin lying seriously (شدید) injured. He was about to die. Abu Jahan offered him a cup of water. Just then, another injured soldier 'Hisham Bin Abil' cried for water. Abu's cousin asked him to give the cup of water to Hisham. When he came near Hisham, he heard another cry from a mujahid. Hisham asked Abu to offer the cup of water to him. So Abu went quickly to the third one but he had died. Abu quickly went back to Hisham but he had also died. Then he rushed back to his cousin but he too had left for his

heavenly home (جنتی گھر). This shows that Muslims had a great sense of sacrifice for one another. They were really (واقعی) great.

Moral:

1. It is a great virtue to be helpful.

11. The Boy Who Cried "Wolf"

Once there lived a shepherd (گڈریا) in a village (گاؤں). He used to bring sheep in the jungle to let them graze. One day, he thought of a strange joke (مذاق). He shouted (چلایا) "Wolf! Wolf!" The villagers ran to his help with their weapons. When they came near him, they found him laughing. They cursed (برا بھلا کہا) him and went back. After a few days, he repeated (دہرایا) the same joke. People came to his help but there was no wolf again. They were very annoyed (ناراض) at him. They decided not to help him next time. One day, a wolf did come there. The boy cried, "Wolf! Wolf!" many times (کئی دفعہ) but nobody came to his help. The wolf killed him and many of his sheep. In this way (اس طریقے سے), he received punishment for his silly joke (اتقانہ مذاق).

Morals:

1. Never tell a lie.
2. Once a liar, always a liar

کبھی جھوٹ نہ بولو۔

ایک دفعہ کا جھوٹا ہمیشہ کا جھوٹا۔

12. The Jester and the King

Once upon a time, a king had a jester in his court. He enjoyed every kind of liberty (آزادی) of speech. This had made him bold (بہادر) and proud.

One day, the king was holding court and was busy in serious state affairs (ملکی معاملات). The jester made fun of him. The king got highly offended (ناراض) and sentenced (سزا دی) the jester to death. The jester begged (التجائی) for mercy but the king turned down (رد کردی) his request. At last, when the jester pleaded for mercy again and again, the king said, "Die you must, but I grant you the freedom to choose (انتخاب کرنا) the kind of death you like".

The clever jester readily used his wit and requested the king to die of old age. The king was impressed by his ready wit (حاضر جوابی) and forgave him with the warning (تنبیہ) to be careful in future.

Moral:

1. It never pays to over-reach yourself.

اپنی حیثیت سے بڑھ کر بات کرنا کبھی فائدہ نہیں دیتا۔

13. The Greedy Dog

Once, there lived a greedy dog in a certain town. He stole a piece of meat from a butcher's shop (تھاب کی دوکان) and ran away. He wanted to eat it alone. So he decided to go away from the town. On the way, he had to cross a stream (ندی) by bridge (پل). The water was deep and crystal clear (صاف شفاف). The dog saw his reflection (عکس) in the water. He took it for another dog with a larger piece of meat in his mouth. He was very greedy. He decided to get that piece of meat also. Without wasting any time, he barked at it, as he opened the mouth his own piece fell in to the water. Thus, instead of getting another piece of meat, he lost his own piece.

Moral:

1. Greed is a curse.

لاچُ بری بلا ہے۔

14. The Fox and the Grapes

One day, a fox was very hungry. He went about in search of food. After sometime, he reached a garden. He saw bunches (گچھے) of ripe (پکے ہوئے) grapes hanging down a high wall. His mouth watered. He wanted to eat them and jumped at them again and again (بار بار) but could not reach them. At last, he gave up (تک کر دی) his struggle (کوشش) and went away saying, "These grapes are sour (کھٹے). I will not like to eat them".

Morals:

1. Grapes are sour
2. People pretend to dislike what they cannot get.

انگور کھٹے ہیں۔

لوگ جس چیز کو حاصل نہ کر سکیں اسے ناپسند کرنے لگتے ہیں۔

15. A Merchant and His Horse

Once there lived a rich merchant in a town. One day he had to go a long way on his business tour (کاروباری دورہ). It was already getting dark. A nail (کھری) fell from the horse's hoofs. At night, he stayed (قیام کیا) at an inn. The inn-boy warned him to mend the nail of the shoe of horse but he was in a great hurry (جلدی). So he did not care for the warning. He continued (جاری رکھا) his journey. The nail ran into the horse's hoof and made him lame (لنگڑا). Now the horse could not walk any longer. In the meantime, robbers (ڈاکو) appeared from the jungle. They killed the merchant, looted all his money and made their way (اپنی راہ لی).

Morals:

1. Haste Makes waste.
2. A stitch in time saves nine.

جلدی کام شیطان کا۔

وقت راگما ہوا اک ناکہ آئندہ والے سونا نکوں سے بچاتا ہے۔

16. The Tiger and the Greedy Man

Once upon a time, a tiger killed a woman. She had a golden bangle in round her wrist. The tiger kept the golden bangle with him. One day, a man came there. He was standing on the bank of a stream in order to cross it. Suddenly, the tiger appeared from his den. The man got afraid. But the tiger told him that it had become pious (مُتقی) and kept praying all the time. The tiger offered the man the golden bangle as a gift. The man was very greedy. He readily came near the tiger to receive the gift. The tiger at once jumped upon the man and tore him into pieces.

Morals:

1. Greed is a curse.
2. A wolf may lose its teeth but not its nature.

ناچ بُری بلا ہے۔

چور چوری سے جانے ہیرا پھیری سے نہ جائے۔

17. A Flock Of Pigeons and the Net

Once upon a time a flock of pigeons came flying to vast (وسیع) green fields. They looked down and saw plenty (کثرت) of food grains (دانے). They asked their chief to alight (نیچے اترنا). He did not allow them to do so because he feared that the net was set by some hunter. The pigeons insisted (اصرار) that there was no fear of a net and their fear was baseless. At last, the leader had to surrender (ہتھیار ڈالنا). So he accepted their proposal (تجویز). They landed and were caught in a net. All of them were very puzzled (پریشان). They requested their leader to do something to get out of the net. He advised them to exert their power together and pull the net up. They acted upon his advice and got rid of the dangerous problem.

Moral:

1. Union is strength.

اتفاق میں برکت ہے۔

18. A Traveller and the Tiger

Once a kind-hearted (رحم دل) man was passing through a forest. Suddenly, he found a tiger caught in a cage. The tiger begged the man to let him out of the cage. The man was afraid of the beast but, at last, he set him free. The tiger knocked the man down to eat him. The man said that he was ungrateful (ناشکرا). Both went to papal tree for opinion (رائے). The tree said that the man was ungrateful. Then they went to the bullock for decision (فیصلہ). It upheld (قائم رکھتا ہے) the papal's decision. Then they asked a jackal for its opinion. It was of the opinion that a big beast (دورندہ) like a tiger could not be contained (سا جانا۔ رکھا جانا) in such a small cage. The tiger jumped

into the cage to prove it. The jackal shut the door at once. The man thanked the jackal for saving his life and went his way.

Moral:

1. A fair face may hide a foul heart.

بھولا بھالا چہرہ اپنے اندر مکاروں بھی رکھ سکتا ہے۔

19. The Farmer and His Lazy Sons

A farmer had four sons. All of them were lazy and did nothing. He advised them many times to work but all in vain (بے سود). At last, he fell seriously (شدید) ill. He sent for his sons and told them about a hidden (چھپا ہوا) treasure (خزانہ) buried (دفن) in the fields. Saying this, he passed away (فوت ہو گیا). The four sons dug all the fields deep. But they found no treasure. A wise man advised them to sow seeds in the fields. They sowed the land and after some days, bumper (بہت زیادہ) crop grew in the fields. Then they realised the wisdom (عقلمندی) of their father. They gave up laziness (سستی) and became hard working farmers.

Moral:

1. Necessity is the mother of invention.

ضرورت ایجاد کی ماں ہے۔

20. The Ant and the Cricket

Once upon a time there lived a foolish cricket in a garden. He kept on singing merrily throughout (پورا) spring and summer. He did not lay by (جمع کی) anything for winter. Soon the winter season set in. Snow covered everything. He could not find anything to eat. So he began to starve (ماتے کرنا). One day he went to an ant living nearby. He begged for food and shelter (پناہ). The ant said, "We ants neither lend nor borrow". She asked him what he had been doing in spring and summer. The cricket replied, "It was so pleasant that I had been singing all the time". "Now spend the whole winter in dancing!" the ant replied, "Those who do not save something for future must live without food".

Morals:

1. No pains, no gains.

دکھ بغیر سکھ نہیں۔

2. Save something for rainy days.

مشکل وقت کیلئے کچھ ضرور بچا لینا چاہیئے۔

21. A Richman and His Servant

Once a rich man and his family were riding in a four horse carriage along with their servant. They passed through a jungle. Suddenly, some hungry wolves attacked them. They were terrified (خوفزدہ). The rich man ordered his faithful (وفادار) servant to let loose (کھول دینا) two horses one by one so that they might escape from the hungry wolves. But the wolves came up again

and again. At last, the servant drew his sword (تواری) and jumped on the wolves. He fought with the wolves bravely. This fight gave the rich man and his family enough time to escape from the scene.

Moral:

1. Crooked by nature are made straight by rod.

لاٹوں کے بھوت باتوں سے نہیں مانتے۔

22. The Hare And The Lion

Once there lived a fierce (خونخوار) lion in a jungle. He killed many animals. All the animals of the jungle were terrified. They held a meeting to get rid (نجات حاصل کرنا) of the lion. A hare offered his services to save them from the lion. One day, the lion sent for the hare. It willfully (جان بوجھ کر) reached the lion's den very late. The lion asked him in rage (غصہ), why he was so late. The hare told the lion that another lion had stopped him on the way. The lion ordered the hare to take him to the other lion. The hare was very wise. He took the lion to a well (کنواں). The lion saw his reflection (عکس) in the well. He jumped into the well with an angry roar (دھماڑ) and was drowned (ڈوب گیا). In this way, the wise hare saved the lives of other animals of the jungle.

Morals:

1. Wisdom over-rules strength.
2. Two of trades seldom agree.

عقل بھینس سے بڑی ہے۔

کئے کا کتا بیر۔